



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Pablo Casanova Ramon-Borja

Group Art Unit: 3644

Examiner: Nahid Amiri

Serial No.: 09/985,961

Filed: November 5, 2001

For: TILE SIMULATING FOUR TILES WITH A RETICULATED MESH SUPPORT AND
FREE ASSEMBLY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

To the Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement which lists prior art that may be considered
of interest in the examination of subject Application.

This Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed as a representation that an
exhaustive search of the prior art has been conducted or that other material information as
defined under 37 CFR §1.56(a) may not exist.

It is submitted, however, that this Statement complies with the requirements of 37 CFR
§1.56, §1.97 and §1.98 and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, Section 609. If, for any
reason, the Examiner to whom this Application is assigned for examination considers otherwise,
it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted so that any deficiencies can be
corrected.

The following documents are submitted herewith:

09/20/2003 MGE BREH1 00000063 09985961

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GROUP 3600

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1. International Patent Application No. PCT/AT95/00146 of OBERMULLER ET AL, filed July 11, 1995, International Publication No. WO 96/01932, published January 25, 1996, is for a Roofing Tile. Except for the abstract, the publication appears to be in German. In the Abstract it is stated that a roofing tile has inner and an outer covering surfaces and securing lugs in the area of its top end. The edges of the two parallel longitudinal sides of the roofing tile have contact grooves and complementary contact ribs that extend in directions parallel to the edges and the roofing tile also has a step. Reinforcement ribs are provided on the inner covering surface and decorative grooves are provided on the outer covering surface.
2. European Patent EP 0 695 839 A1 of Nelskamp is directed to a S-shaped tile which has connecting means for adjacent tiles at ends whereby the outer edge of the convex part of the S-shaped tile is received by the connecting means.
3. French Brevet d'Invention No. 1, 087,801 of Ludowici which was published on March 1, 1955 discloses a generally "W" shaped tile having connecting edges extended upwardly on one longitudinal edge and which extend downwardly on the other side of the tile.
4. French Demande de Brevet d'Invention No. 2,263,352 of Bisch which was published October 3, 1975 appears to be directed to a tile comprising four simulated S-shaped tiles. However there are four convex portions and four concave portions and, in addition, on one longitudinal side of the tile there is a connection or attachment portion show in the drawings. A connection means is further provided the top of the tile including two parallel ridges which define a channel and appear to receive similar ridges on the bottom of a tile next above the tile involved. Also similar ridges are

provided on the bottom of the tile involved to cooperate with separately extending ridges on a next lower tile.

5. Spanish utility model No. 261145 is dated October 30, 1981 and the applicant appears to be Lambert Ceramiques, S.A. of Paris, France. In the drawings, generally "S" shaped ceramic tiles are shown wherein their concave portions are flat and on one of their edges two channels are provided for receiving a grooves in the other edge of the convex portion. Also channels defined by grooves are provided for connecting the upper portion of each tile to the lower portion of an adjacent tile and for connecting the lower portion of each tile to a matching channel and grooves in the next lower adjacent tile.
6. Spanish utility model No. 1043085 was published November 1, 1999. The listed inventor is Garcia Mellado and the subject appears to be a tile having four simulated tiles which is shown in Fig.1. On one of the longitudinal sides next to the concave portions of the simulated tiles, a connecting area is provided which is configured to receive the edge of the outward convex portion of the "S" configuration of the tile which is adjacent thereto. The tile also has connection ridges defining channels between them extending apparently upwardly from the upper part of the tile and downwardly on the lower part of the tile.

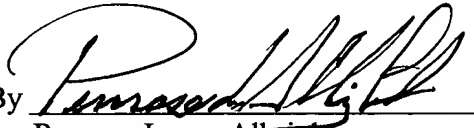
Please note, that for the most part, all the above-mentioned documents are in a language other than English. If translations are desired they will be provided to the Examiner to whom the above-identified application has been assigned upon request. It will be further noted, however, that the documents submitted herewith were cited in the International Patent Application PCT/ES01/00082 wherein the Disclosure is substantially identical to

the Disclosure of the instant Application and wherein all the above documents are considered to fall in the "A" Category as defining the general state of the art without being of particular relevance. Nevertheless, particular attention is divided to Spanish utility model No. 1043085.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the first Official Action on the merits, our check on the amount of \$180.00 submitted herewith to cover the fee prescribed 37 CFR §1.17(p). If this is in error, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is authorized to debit or credit our Account No. 13-2000 as appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

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